



General Assembly

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Committee on Conferences

Substantive session of 2014

2-8 September 2014

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Noemi Tan **Diaz** (Philippines)

I. Organizational matters

A. Membership

1. In its resolution 43/222 B, the General Assembly decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to the provisions of that resolution, in 2014 the Committee was composed of the following Member States: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Mauritania, Namibia, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

B. Officers

2. At its organizational session for 2014 (529th meeting), held on 23 April 2014, and at its reconvened organizational session for 2014 (530th meeting), held on 20 June 2014, the Committee elected the following officers to serve in 2014:

Chair:

Yotam Goren (Israel)

Vice-Chairs:

Ljilja Grgić-Stojanović (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Flora Christiane Seka-Fouah (Côte d'Ivoire)

Eduardo López (Peru)

Rapporteur:

Noemi Tan Diaz (Philippines)



3. Also at its organizational session, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of its Bureau for 2015 and that the outgoing Chair and members of the Bureau would continue in their capacity until the 2015 Bureau was elected.

C. Organization of work

4. At its organizational session, the Committee also agreed to follow the guidelines adopted in 1994 and 1995 with regard to its consideration of intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings and to meet, as required, to review proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings during sessions of the General Assembly.

5. At the same session, the Committee reviewed the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (A/69/6 (Prog. 1)). The recommendations of the Committee were transmitted in a letter dated 20 May 2014 from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to the Chair of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and were included in a note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017: review of part two: biennial programme plan by sectoral, functional and regional bodies (see E/AC.51/2014/CRP.1/Add.1, annexes I and II).

6. Also at the same session, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management addressed the Committee and introduced the proposed strategic framework. Statements were made by the representative of France.

7. At its reconvened organizational session, held on 20 June 2014, the Committee decided to adopt at its substantive session the dates for its organizational and substantive sessions for 2015 so that the dates would be included in the calendar of conferences and meetings.

8. The Committee convened its substantive session from 2 to 8 September 2014 (531st to ___ meetings). At the opening of the substantive session, on 2 September, the Under-Secretary-General introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences (A/69/120). During the formal meetings, statements were made by the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States and Uruguay, and by the observers for Cuba and Egypt.

D. Programme of work

9. At its organizational session for 2013 (522nd meeting), held on 29 April 2013, the Committee requested that the Secretariat submit the provisional agenda for 2014 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2014. At its organizational session for 2014 (529th meeting), held on 23 April 2014, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda (A/AC.172/2014/L.1) and requested that the Secretariat submit a provisional agenda for 2015 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2015. The Committee also decided to include in its programme of work for the year, prior to the Committee's substantive session or upon request, informal briefings by the Secretariat on issues relating to conference management of interest to Member States.

E. Participation of observers

10. Eleven Member States and two intergovernmental organizations were represented as observers at the organizational, resumed organizational and substantive sessions of the Committee: Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Trinidad and Tobago, the European Union and the International Organization of la Francophonie.
